

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims shall replace all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical communication system comprising:

a transmitter configured to transmit a plurality of optical signals over an optical information channel, each of said signals being at an associated wavelength in a range from about 1560 nm to about 1630 nm, wherein said optical information channel comprises at least one Raman amplifier configured to amplify said range of wavelengths, and wherein said at least one Raman amplifier includes multiple Raman pumps, each having a different pump wavelength in a range from about 1480 nm to about 1520 nm; and

a receiver configured to receive said plurality of optical signals.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1 [[2]], wherein said at least one optical amplifier is includes an erbium doped fiber amplifier.

5. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein said optical information channel spans at

least 2,000 km between said transmitter and said receiver.

6. (Currently Amended) An optical communication system comprising:

a transmitter configured to transmit a plurality of optical signals over an optical information channel, each of said signals being at an associated wavelength in a range from about 1560 nm to about 1630 nm, said optical information channel comprising at least one optical amplifier configured to amplify said range of wavelengths, and wherein said at least one optical amplifier includes multiple Raman pumps, each having a different pump wavelength in a range from about 1480 nm to about 1520 nm; and

a receiver configured to receive said plurality of optical signals, said optical information channel spanning at least 2,000 km between said transmitter and said receiver.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 6, wherein said at least one optical amplifier includes is an erbium doped fiber amplifier.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of transmitting a plurality of data signals on an optical information channel comprising:

modulating each of said data signals onto an associated wavelength in a range between about 1560 nm and about 1630 nm;~~and~~

transmitting each said wavelength on said optical information channel; and

amplifying each said wavelength using a plurality of Raman pumps, each having a pump wavelength in a range from about 1480 nm to about 1520 nm.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising:

regenerating said data signals after said data signals travel at least 2,000 km from a transmitter.